

Chase

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

2 November 1973

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: GIANT SCALE Coverage of North Vietnam

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1. [REDACTED] (Assistant to [REDACTED] NIO for Southeast Asia) called to advise that a decision was made at the 2 November WSAG for a "politically motivated" SR-71 flight to be made over North Vietnam before Secretary Kissinger's forthcoming visit to China and another to be made after his departure. The call was to serve both as notification and also to discuss implementation steps and route planning.

2. I reviewed for him the steps that would normally be taken following such a WSAG decision; that is, JRC and DIA would be notified through Joint Chiefs/SecDef channel; CIA through DCI. I indicated that I would get in touch with DIA ([REDACTED]) to assure coordination of planning and that [REDACTED] would contact [REDACTED] to obtain their views on most immediate intelligence requirements. These would be communicated to DIA for inclusion in planning the flight route.

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3. I contacted [REDACTED] (on leave) who had received word of the flight approval and was about to call. We agreed that [REDACTED] would consolidate requirements from this area and that [REDACTED] would be DIA's contact point for consolidation. [REDACTED] will prepare a memorandum reflecting guidance provided [REDACTED] will effect a review of existing routes to see whether any of them are satisfactory for the present operation. He indicated that a mission probably could not be flown before Sunday, and that the Mobile Processing Center (MPC) at Okinawa had been de-activated which means that the film will be processed either at OPIC-A (Hawaii) or brought to the States for processing-- probably the former.

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